



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DIVISION, GREAT LAKES AND OHIO RIVER
CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 1159
CINCINNATI, OHIO 45201-1159

CELRD-PDS-P

8 November 2007

MEMORANDUM FOR Commander, Nashville District

SUBJECT: Major Subordinate Command (MSC) Approval of the Peer Review Plan for Mill Creek Watershed Restoration Feasibility Study

1. The Peer Review Plan for the Mill Creek Watershed Restoration Feasibility Study (attachment 1) has been presented to the Great Lakes and Ohio River Division for approval in accordance with memorandum from Major General Don T. Riley, Director of Civil Works, and subject titled "Peer Review Process" dated 30 March 2007.
2. The Mill Creek Watershed Restoration Feasibility Study is a multipurpose watershed scale study that evaluates both water quantity and water quality issues as defined by aquatic ecosystem restoration and flood damage reduction issues. Mill Creek is located in one of the most rapidly urbanizing areas of middle Tennessee and drains about 13% of Nashville, Davidson County and 6% of Williamson County. In addition to adverse impacts resulting from flood events, the aquatic ecosystem of the watershed has suffered severe adverse impacts because of activities related to urbanization.
3. The purpose of a peer review plan is to assign the appropriate level and review independence, establish the procedures, and assign responsibilities for conducting the Independent Technical Review (ITR) and External Peer Review (EPR). This peer review plan is compliant with the requirements of the Corps Peer Review Process, which is documented in EC1105-2-408, dated 31 May 2005, and has been recommended by the National Planning Center of Expertise for Flood Damage Reduction (FDR-PCX) and the National Ecosystem Planning Center of Expertise (ECO-PCX). The recommendations from the FDR-PCX and ECO-PCX are provided as attachments 2 and 3, respectively.
4. Policy compliance and quality management verification for the Mill Creek Watershed Restoration Peer Review Plan have been completed. Division staff has confirmed the Peer Review Plan has been formulated in accordance with current policy and concurs with the recommendations provided by the FDR-PCX and ECO-PCX for an integrated review process including independent technical review (ITR) because 1) no influential scientific information will be produced by the study and 2) the risk was assessed as low. Further discussions with LRN on the risk assessment aspect of this study between the undersigned, Dr. Jarboe, and Ms. Sue Ferguson indicated

the average depth of flooding in the study area is 2' to 3' and the stream velocity was above average. Ms. Ferguson indicated that the likely recommended alternative would be non-structural (acquisition) and therefore the residual risk was low. In the event that during the conduct of the study, structural flood risk management measures are considered, a reevaluation of a need for an EPR for the full feasibility study must take place.

5. The District is requested to post the Peer Review Plan to its web site and provide a link to the FDR-PCX and ECO-PCX for their use. Prior to posting, the names of individuals in the PRP should be removed.
6. The Peer Review Plan for the Mill Creek Watershed Restoration Feasibility Study is approved by the Great Lakes and Ohio River Division, Chief of Planning and Policy Division. Point of Contact for this effort is Dr. Hank Jarboe (513) 684-6050 (CELRD-PDS-P).

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Theodore A. Brown", written in dark ink.

THEODORE A. BROWN, P.E., M.B.A.
Chief, Planning and Policy Division
Great Lakes and Ohio River Division

cf: CECW-LRD (Lang)
CELRD-RB (Dale)
CELRD-PD (White)
CELRD-PDS-N (Moody)